

SEE A SPORTING EVENT

Rugby League: www.nrl.com

The national rugby league season kicks off in March and runs through to September. Fifteen teams (the local team being the Roosters) compete every weekend at sporting venues all over Australia. The home ground for the Roosters is close-by at Aussie Stadium (see *Venues* below) and home games are generally played there every fortnight, as well as the season finals in September. Other major interstate and international Rugby League events are the State of Origin series, the Anzac Test Match and the Tri-Nation Series. The State of Origin is a three match series (huge grudge match) between New South Wales and Queensland which happens over May/June/July. The Anzac Test is another hotly contested match between Australia and New Zealand happening annually in May. The Tri-Nation series is between Australia, New Zealand and Great Britain over October and November. When Sydney is host to one of these matches, the game is played at Aussie Stadium or Telstra Stadium (see *Venues* below).

Purchase tickets through Ticketek: Tel. 132 849 or visit www.ticketek.com.au

If you miss out on tickets, you can always catch the game in Ravesi's sports and gaming lounge.

Rugby Union: www.rugby.com.au

The national rugby union season starts in February and goes through until May. 14 teams (the local team being the Waratahs) compete every weekend at sporting venues all over Australia. The home ground for the Waratahs is close-by at Aussie Stadium (see *Venues* below) and games are played there at least once a month. Other major international Rugby games are those of the Tri-Nation Series between Australia, New Zealand and South Africa and the Bledisloe Cup fought out between long time rivals Australia and New Zealand. When games are played in Sydney, they take place at Aussie Stadium or Telstra Stadium (see *Venues* below). Both series unfold over July/August/September and definitely worth experiencing if you can get tickets. Otherwise, enjoy the game from the relaxed comfort of Ravesi's sports and gaming lounge.

Purchase tickets through Ticketek: Tel. 132 849 or visit www.ticketek.com.au

Aussie Rules: www.afl.com.au

The national league for Aussie Rules starts in March and finishes in September. There's only one Sydney team in the comp- the Sydney Swans and home games are played at either the Sydney Cricket Ground or Telstra Stadium (see *Venues* below). Aussie Rules is unique to Australia so they do not compete internationally.

Purchase tickets through Ticketek: Tel. 132 849 or visit ticketek.com.au

Soccer: www.a-league.com.au

The national soccer competition, called the A-league, is played over the months of August through to February. 8 teams representing all the major cities compete at sporting venues around the country. Our local team is Sydney FC who were the premiers in 2005/6. They play home games at Aussie Stadium (see *Venues* below) at least once a month.

Purchase tickets through Ticketek: Tel. 132 849 or visit www.ticketek.com.au

Cricket: www.cricket.com.au

International cricket is played in several countries and nowadays the season covers a good part of the year. However, the best time to see Australia play a cricket match in Sydney is over the summer months. There are two different types of cricket match: a Test Match or a One Day Match. If you are not familiar with cricket, I would definitely recommend a One Day Match. These are a lot more exciting for those new to the game. Be aware, it's a full day and night of cricket! Games are played at the Sydney Cricket Ground (see *Venues* below) and tickets can be purchased through Ticketek: 132 849 or www.ticketek.com.au

Venues:

Aussie Stadium & Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG)

Moore Park Rd, Paddington

www.sydneycricketground.com.au

Getting There: Taxi will cost between \$10- \$15. Alternatively take the 380 bus from Campbell Pde (opposite Ravesi's) to Oxford St, Paddington. Oxford St runs parallel to Moore Park Rd so alight on Oxford (not too far down) and take any left hand turn. This should connect you with Moore Park Rd and you won't be able to miss the looming stadiums, nor the crowd heading there. Aussie Stadium is the stadium closest to Moore Park Rd and the Sydney Cricket Ground is next door heading in the opposite direction from which you've come.

Telstra Stadium

Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush

www.telstrastadium.com.au

Getting There: Homebush is a fair distance from Bondi and we strongly recommend you use public transport. Take the 380 bus from Campbell Pde (across from Ravesi's) to Bondi Junction and alight at the bus/train terminal. Purchase a train ticket to Olympic Park Station, then first take the train to Central station. Transfer at Central to the Olympic Park direct line -which is a special service. If the direct line is not running (which is unlikely), take a train from Central to Lidcombe, then Lidcombe direct to Olympic Park Station.